

Handle With Care

Save
Vaccine
Save
Money

FREEZE

REFRIGERATE

5°F
or lower

Varicella



35°F
to 46°F

MMR

DTaP

DT & Td

Hib

HepA, HepB

Influenza

IPV

PPV, PCV

Vaccines are very expensive.

DTaP: \$17 per dose

Hepatitis B: \$24 per dose

MMR: \$28 per dose

PCV: \$58 per dose

Hib: \$16 per dose

Varicella: \$45 per dose

If we don't protect our vaccines, they won't protect our patients!

Vaccine Handling Rules

Refrigerate vaccine immediately when it is received.* Store varicella vaccine in freezer. Do not store vaccine in the door of the refrigerator.

Protect MMR from light at all times and keep it cold. Don't get the vial from the refrigerator until time to reconstitute and administer. Diluent does not need refrigeration if MMR is administered right after diluent is added.

Rotate vaccine stock to avoid outdating. Note the expiration dates on vials or cartons and use short-dated vaccines first. Keep vials and polio dispettes in their cartons. Don't use outdated vaccine. Don't over-order.

Safeguard the refrigerator. Make sure it stays plugged in. It should have a safety-lock type plug.

Post a warning sign so electricians or janitors don't accidentally unplug the refrigerator or turn off the circuit or electricity.

Maintain proper temperatures in the refrigerator (2°C to 8°C or 35°F to 46°F) and in the freezer (-15°C or 5°F or lower). If space allows, help keep temperatures stable by placing big plastic containers of water in the refrigerator, cold packs (blue ice) in the freezer.

Check refrigerator and freezer twice a day, first thing in the morning and last thing at night. *AM*: See if temperatures are correct. (Keep kitchenware-type thermometers in both refrigerator and freezer. *PM*: Make sure the doors are shut tightly and the unit is plugged in.

*Refer to package insert for specific instructions on each vaccine. If you have questions about the condition of the vaccines at the time of delivery, first store them properly, then notify the supplier and get instructions.